

The Old Ironsides Report 🖥

Wednesday, January 28, 2004



Bandits welcome ICDC comrades

Story and photo by Capt. Noel Gorospe, TF 1-37 Armor Baghdad, Iraq -- Task Force 1-37 Armor "Bandits" conducted an Iraqi Civil Defense Corps (ICDC) Promotion and Company Activation Ceremony Jan. 5.

The Battalion Commander, LTC Garry P. Bishop, was the Reviewing Officer.

During the ceremony, a first lieutenant was promoted to captain as the company's first commander. A sergeant first class was promoted to the company's first-ever first sergeant.

Their promotions mark another historic moment for the Coalition Forces and the Iragis, Bishop said.

"Your promotions are a testament to your desires to excel and lead by example," he said.

The activation of the company established a foundation by which future ICDC companies will strive to emulate

There are 133 ICDC guardsmen in the company and it has its own chain of command.

"Today, you are all officially Bandits," Bishop said. "You all will be treated like any other Bandit in our battalion . . . [treated] with the same dignity and respect . . . and will be held to the same standards."

Today, the ICDC conducts operations in conjunction with coalition forces in traffic control points, searches, guard points, and other major operations.

, "They are incorporated into all TF 1-37 AR operations, and are treated equally among the task force's soldiers," explained Maj. Stephen Letcher, task force operations officer. "In the near future they will perform operations independent of coalition forces."

2nd ACR Donates Shoes to Kids

By CPT Sean P Kirley, 2nd ACR Regimental PAO BAGHDAD, Iraq -- Throughout the last week and continuing periodically for the remainder of 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment's tour in Iraq, the "Dragoons" Regiment will donate shoes to various neighborhoods in their zone.

The shoes -- brand new and name brands -- are being distributed at about 50 pairs at a time by troops led by Sgt. Maj. Samuel Rhodes, the regimental operations sergeant major.

When the operation is complete, more than 300 pairs of shoes will get into the hands of needy children in 9 Nissan, Sumer, and New Baghdad communities.

Helping with the operation by actually putting the shoes on the feet of each child is Pvt. 1st Class Andy Nicholson, the sergeant major's driver, Staff Sgt. Olevia Peterson, security NCO and Spc. Donovan Brock of the 549th MP Company, 3rd Infantry Division.

The local population routinely meets the soldiers with enthusiasm and a crowd quickly gathers to watch the children lace up their new shoes.

Though it is difficult to give shoes to everyone at each site, the soldiers try to accommodate each small child.



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News...

New Hampshire Democrats Cast First Votes CONCORD, N.H. (AP) - John Kerry and Howard Dean elbowed their way toward the finish line of the New Hampshire primary campaign on Tuesday as Democratic presidential rivals vied for convention delegates and campaign momentum for the contests to follow. "I vote my conscience. Unlike Howard Dean, I've fought in a war and I know the responsibilities of commander in chief, of how you send young men and women off to war," Kerry said in an unusual jab at his closest pursuer in the polls.

Bush Defends War Decision With Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Bush on Tuesday vigorously defended his decision to go to war against Iraq despite chief inspector David Kay's conclusion that Saddam Hussein did not have weapons of mass destruction, as the United States had believed. Bush said he had "great confidence" in the intelligence community, which had provided prewar estimates about what Saddam had in his arsenal. But Bush refrained from saying - as he once did - that weapons of mass destruction would be discovered eventually. Bush had cited Saddam's alleged weapons as justification for the war.

E-Mail Worm Snarls Computers Around Globe

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) - An e-mail worm that looks like a normal error message but actually contains a malicious program continued to snarl computers around the world on Tuesday. MessageLabs Inc., which scans e-mail for viruses, said 1 in every 12 messages contained the worm, called "Mydoom" or "Novarg." Security experts described it as the largest virus-like outbreak in months, one made more problematic by its timing.

Martha Stewart's Stock Sale Trial Opens

NEW YORK (AP) - Martha Stewart lied to investigators and committed "serious federal crimes" by selling off stock based on a tip no one else had, a prosecutor charged Tuesday. But the defense said the case was based on speculation and guesswork. In her opening statement in federal court, Assistant U.S. Attorney Karen Patton Seymour told jurors that Stewart had lied to federal agents, and "multiplied that lie by feeding it to investors in her own company."

SAFETY TIP

Be cautious when you observe flares; these have been used to signal/warn of approaching convoys/patrols for potential ambushes. One to three round bursts of gunfire have also been used to signal the approach of convoys/patrols.

In other news...

Dave Matthews Band to Receive NAACP Award LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Dave Matthews Band will receive the special Chairman's Award at the upcoming NAACP Image Awards for its devotion to social and environmental causes and its "dignified representation of people of color," the civil rights group has announced.

With the awards, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People honors people and companies that support positive change for people of color in arts and entertainment.

The honor will be bestowed at the March 6 awards ceremony in Los Angeles. Fox will broadcast the program on March 11.

The racially mixed music group includes drummer Carter Beauford, bassist Stefan Lessard, vocalist-guitarist Dave Matthews, saxophonist Leroi Moore and violinist Boyd Tinsley.

NAACP Board Chairman Julian Bond, who chose the group for the special award, praised band members for their distinguished service to social causes and dignified representation of people of color.

"Dave Matthews Band demonstrated what commitment means in an artist. With their music and their generosity, they have made a difference in the lives of many," Bond said. "To see and hear them is to recognize great talent; to learn of their good deeds is to recognize they are good souls."

Dave Matthews Band released a statement Sunday saying, "It is a great honor to us that an institution with the history and accomplishments of the NAACP has chosen to recognize our actions. We will always greatly value this award."

The group's Bama Works Foundation has donated millions of dollars in grants to a variety of groups around the world, including conservation organizations for the Amazon rain forest, family farmers, youth community clubs and AIDS charities.

Previous NAACP Chairman's Award recipients include actor Danny Glover, cartoonist Aaron McGruder and singer-actress Janet Jackson.

Chaplain's thought for the day... Strength

Consider the difference between a strong and a weak cup of tea. The same ingredients water and tea are used for both. The difference is that the strong cup of tea results from the tea leaves' immersion in the water longer, allowing the water more time to get into the tea and the tea into the water. The longer the steeping process -- the stronger the cup of tea.

In the same way, the length of time we spend in God's Word determines how deeply we get into it and it gets into us. Just like the tea, the longer we are in the Word, the "stronger" we become.

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10:00 SPOF 10:30 11:00 FIA S REVIE 11:30 11:46 11:52 12:00 COLL INDIA: 12:30 12:35			MOSCOW ON THE HUDSON	BABY LOONEY TUNES : - SPINOUT	NEWSNIGHT WITH AARON BROWN	09:00
10:00 SPOF 10:30 11:00 FIA S REVIE 11:30 11:46 11:52 12:00 COLL INDIA: 12:30 12:35				THE ADVENTURES OF JIMMY NEUTRON,		
10:30 11:00 FIA S REVIE 11:30 11:46 11:52 12:00 COLL 1///////////////////////////////////				BOY GENIUS : - BATTLE OF TJE BANDS/JIMMY ON ICE		09:30
11:00 FIA S REVIE 11:30 11:46 11:52 12:00 COLL INDIA 12:30 12:35	RTSCENTER	BOB THE BUILDER		A WALK IN YOUR SHOES	PAULA ZAHN NOW	10:00
11:30 11:46 11:52 12:00 COLL (NDIA) 12:30 12:35		WHEEL OF FORTUNE		STRANGE DAYS AT BLAKE HOLSEY HIGH (YR. 1, EPS 1-13) (TV-7): - INVISIBLE		10:30
11:30 11:46 11:52 12:00 COLL (NDIA) 12:30 12:35	SPORTSCAR CHAMPIONSHIP - YEAR IN	THE DR. PHIL SHOW	ROCKET POWER: - LOST & FOUND	JEOPARDYI	NIGHTLINE	11:00
11:46 11:52 12:00 COLL //VD/A/ 12:30 12:35	VIEW	THE BIG TIME SHOW	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS: - THE BOYS IN		MOTTEME	
11:52 12:00 COLL INDIA 12:30 12:35			THE BAND/ SMARTY PANTS	HEADLINE NEWS		11:30
12:00 COLL //ND/A/ 12:30 12:35		THE OPRAH WINFREY SHOW		PACIFIC REPORT		11:46
12:30 12:35	LEGE BASKETBALL - BIG TEN: PURDUE @		THE SIMPSONS : - THE SIMPSON'S CHRISTMAS	ESPNEWS	HARDBALL WITH CHRIS	12:00
12:35	4 <i>NA</i>		SPECIAL THE COSBY SHOW : - JITTERBUG BREAK	HEADLINE NEWS	MATTHEWS	12:30
12:52		GUIDING LIGHT	THE COSBT SHOW: - SITTENBUG BREAK	HEADLINE NEWS		12:35
				PACIFIC REPORT THE PARKERS: - THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE		12:52
13:00			AMERICAN IDOL	FOR	FOX NEWS LIVE	13:00
13:17		GENERAL HOSPITAL		THE SIMPLE LIFE		13:17 13:30
13:30 14:00 WINT	TER X GAMES - VIII DAY 4	HEADLINE NEWS	THE SHIP : - EPISODE 6	EXTREME MAKEOVER	CNN DAYBREAK	14:00
14:30		JUDGE JUDY	ON THE AIROVER THERE - PART 3: THE			14:30
15:00		TODAY	COLD WAR: 1961-1989	THE OC: - THE GIRLFRIEND	GOOD MORNING AMERICA	15:00
15:30			LEGENDS OF AIRPOWER - CURTIS LEMAY			15:30
16:00 SPOF	PRTSCENTER		SUICIDE MISSIONS : - BALL TURRET GUNNERS	HEADLINE NEWS		16:00
16:22				PACIFIC REPORT		16:22
16:30 17:00 PBR	BULL RIDING - PHOENIX	BABY LOONEY TUNES : - SPINOUT	MOSCOW ON THE HUDSON	TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO	HEADLINE NEWS	16:30 17:00
		THE ADVENTURES OF JIMMY NEUTRON,		THE LATE CHOIN WITH BANGE LETTERS		
17:30		BOY GENIUS: - BATTLE OF TJE BANDS/JIMMY ON ICE		THE LATE SHOW WITH DAVID LETTERMAN	CHANNEL ONE	17:30
17:45					ABC WORLD NEWS THIS	17:45
18:00		A WALK IN YOUR SHOES			MORNING THE EARLY SHOW	18:00
18:30 NFL L	LIVE	STRANGE DAYS AT BLAKE HOLSEY HIGH		ACCESS HOLLYWOOD		18:30
	PRTSCENTER	(YR. 1, EPS 1-13) (TV-7): - INVISIBLE	ROCKET POWER: - LOST & FOUND	CRY FREEDOM	-	19:00
19:30		HEADLINE NEWS	THE FAIRLY ODDPARENTS : - THE BOYS IN			19:30
			THE BAND/ SMARTY PANTS THE SIMPSONS: - THE SIMPSON'S CHRISTMAS			
20:00 NFL I		ESPNEWS	SPECIAL		FOX NEWS LIVE	20:00
		HEADLINE NEWS THE PARKERS: - THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE	THE COSBY SHOW : - JITTERBUG BREAK			20:30
	LEGE GAMENIGHT		AMERICAN IDOL		FOX NEWS LIVE	21:00
21:30 AUST		FOR				21:30
22:00 QUAR	LEGE GAMENIGHT PRISCENTER	THE SIMPLE LIFE	THE SHIP: - EPISODE 6	AMERICA'S FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS	FOX NEWS LIVE	22:00
23:00	LEGE GAMENIGHT					22.00
23:30	LEGE GAMENIGHT PRISCENTER STRALIAN OPEN TENNIS - MENS	THE SIMPLE LIFE	ON THE AIROVER THERE - PART 3: THE COLD WAR: 1961-1989	ESPNEWS	HEADLINE NEWS	23:00

Today in history... Jan. 28, 1986

CHALLENGER EXPLODES

(HISTORYCHANNEL.COM) -- At 11:38 a.m. EST, on January 28, 1986, the space shuttle Challenger lifts off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, and Christa McAuliffe is on her way to becoming the first ordinary U.S. civilian to travel into space. McAuliffe, a 37-year-old high school social studies teacher from New Hampshire, won a competition that earned her a place among the seven-member crew of the Challenger. She underwent months of shuttle training but then, beginning January 23, was forced to wait six long days as the Challenger's launch countdown was repeatedly delayed because of weather and technical problems. Finally, on January 28, the shuttle lifted off.

Seventy-three seconds later, hundreds on the ground, including Christa's family, stared in disbelief as the shuttle exploded in a forking plume of smoke and fire. Millions more watched the wrenching tragedy unfold on live television. There were no survivors.

In 1976, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) unveiled the world's first reusable manned spacecraft, the Enterprise. Five years later, space flights of the shuttle began when Columbia traveled into space on a 54-hour mission. Launched by two solid-rocket boosters and an external tank, only the aircraft-like shuttle entered into orbit around Earth. When the mission was completed, the shuttle fired engines to reduce speed and, after descending through the atmosphere, landed like a glider. Early shuttles took satellite equipment into space and carried out various scientific experiments. The Challenger disaster was the first major shuttle accident.

In the aftermath of the explosion, President Ronald Reagan appointed a special commission to determine what went wrong with Challenger and to develop future corrective measures. The presidential commission was headed by former secretary of state William Rogers, and included former astronaut Neil Armstrong and former test pilot Chuck Yeager. The investigation determined that the explosion was caused by the failure of an "O-ring" seal in one of the two solid-fuel rockets. The elastic O-ring did not respond as expected because of the cold temperature at launch time, which began a chain of events that resulted in the massive explosion. As a result of the explosion, NASA did not send astronauts into space for more than two years as it redesigned a number of features of the space shuttle.

In September 1988, space shuttle flights resumed with the successful launching of the Discovery. Since then, the space shuttle has carried out numerous important missions, such as the repair and maintenance of the Hubble Space Telescope and the construction of the International Space Station. To date, there have been more than 100 space shuttle flights.

